

Constitutional Convention of FIU

Minutes

October 27, 2023

10:30 AM

1. Call to Order
 - a. This meeting was called to order at 11:01am
2. Roll Call
 - a. Brian Levine
 - i. Present
 - b. Alexander Stone
 - i. Present
 - c. Alexander Sutton
 - i. Present
 - d. Mia Rodriguez
 - i. Present
 - e. Tracy Mussotte
 - i. Present
 - f. Peter Hernandez
 - i. Present
 - g. Kaily LaChapelle
 - i. Absent
 - h. Alisha Loiseau
 - i. Absent
 - i. Natalie Martinez
 - i. Absent (excused)
 - j. Quorum has been reached
3. Correction and Approval of Last Meetings Minutes
 - a. Minutes from October 10, 2023
 - i. Correction: Bx 4-6pm from October 25th but there is also a BBC Nov 2nd 1-2pm Constitutional Convention Forum
 - ii. Approved
4. Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. Adopted
5. Public Comments Period
 - a. N/A
6. Reports
 - a. Convention Chair Brian Levine
 - i. Short period of time to figure out scheduling meetings

- ii. More brainstorming of aspects we want to cover
 - iii. Can establish more of a timeline today
 - iv. Open list of topics to cover
 - b. Convention Vice Chair Alexander Sutton
 - i. Forum next week on nov 2nd bbc
 - ii. Timeline is more of a month, a month and a half
 - iii. Might have to bleed into january
 - iv. Hope we can have a final product of revised lines and edits to present to senate no later than a month before the election
 - v. Voted on in general election in early march
 - vi. Be done mid january, first week of february
 - vii. Needs to pass two senate committees
 - viii. Rules and any other committee the SP deems fit
 - ix. Finalize by mid january
 - x. Brian can come as emeritus member
 - c. Convention Secretary Mia Rodriguez
 - i. Thinks we should go through every article of the Constitution.
 - ii. When it comes to the Judicial Branch, Mia would approach it the same way as towards any other article of the Constitution.
7. Old Business
- a. Scheduling of Meetings
 - i. Check the times in the email to see if those work for you
 - ii. That includes Tracy so that we may possibly onboard you as a member of the Convention!
 - iii. Times
 - 1. Tuesday, November 7, 2023: 1:00PM to 5:00PM*
 - a. Works for everyone present except Peter and Alex Sutton has a commitment at 3pm
 - b. Peter free at 5
 - c. Natalie is also available at this time
 - 2. Wednesday, November 8, 2023: 11:00AM to 3:00PM
 - a. Tracy can come late bc class ends at 11:50
 - b. Peter cannot make it bc work from 5am-7pm
 - c. On Sundays, can make it to a zoom at 3pm
 - i. Tentative next meeting
 - 3. Friday, Nov 10, 2023: 4-8pm
 - a. Stone could do 5:30
 - b. Mia cannot bc of 305MUN
 - c. Alex cannot either bc of 305MUN
 - i. No go
 - 4. Monday, November 13, 2023: 11:00AM to 3:00PM
 - a. Stone has a class at 2pm
 - b. Peter cannot
 - i. Good with that

5. Thursday Nov 16th 2-5pm*
 - a. If only Mia and Stone can't make it, then schedule it
 - b. If there are more unable to go, then it's a no go
 - c. Can also discuss if not everyone can meet
 - i. Good (so likely don't discuss judicial and legislative)
 6. Monday, November 27, 2023: 11:00AM to 2:00 PM (this would likely be on Zoom as falls right after Thanksgiving Break)
 - a. Peter no go
 - b. Possible day though
 - i. Zoom yes (but no Peter)
 7. Friday Dec 1st, no time frame * 11am-3pm
 - a. 5-7pm zoom is a yes
 8. Tuesday, December 5, 2023: 1:00PM to 8:00PM
 - a. Everyone present is free for this time period!
 - b. 1-5pm to be more exact
 - i. yes
 9. Thursday, December 7, 2023: 2:00PM to 8:00PM
 - a. Stone cannot
 - b. Tracy has a class at 5
 - c. 11-3pm is best
 - i. Yes
 10. Friday, December 8, 2023: 11:00AM to 8:00PM
 - a. 11-1 or 5-8
 - b. 5-7 zoom
 - i. Final wrap up
 11. Recharge schedule coming soo so does not conflict
- iv. Finalized Schedule
1. Wed Nov 8 11-3
 2. Mon Nov 13 11-3
 3. Thurs Nov 16 2-5pm
 4. Mon Nov 27 11-2 (zoom)
 5. Fri Dec 1st 5-7pm (zoom)
 6. Tue Dec 5th 1-5pm
 7. Thu Dec 7 11-3pm
 8. Fri Dec 8th 5-7pm (zoom)
 - a. Backup
- b. Recess until 1:15pm
 - c. Reconvene at 1:52pm
 - d. Convention Student Forums
 - i. De-Brief on Forum at MMC on October 25, 2023
 1. 52 scans
 2. 9 responses

- a. Some responses reflect that the president has too much power, supreme court should be more involved, etc as an example
 - b. Discussing the possible GPA requirement changes as it was mentioned in this forum
 - ii. Forum at BBC Panther Square on Thursday, November 2, 2023, 12PM-2PM
 - 1. Alex Sutton will order food
 - 2. Will also make copies of the qr codes about the constitution
- e. Discussion of Topics/Provisions/Proposals to include in Convention Deliberations
 - i. Going through articles one by one
 - ii. Theme of SGA living on beyond us
 - 1. Topics to go through
 - a. Article 1
 - i. How to go about amendments
 - 1. Other unis such as UF do not need admin to approve
 - ii. Student sovereignty
 - 1. When it comes to admin and their power
 - iii. Change language of admin positions
 - 1. Not the senior VP of student affairs
 - b. Article II
 - i. General Expansion akin to BOR (maybe even universal declaration of human rights)
 - ii. Organizational affiliation is the only thing to be protected by the FIU SGAC
 - 1. More diversity aspects should be protected
 - iii. Explanation of const amendments by petition to be changed
 - iv. More like the streamlining act we want to pass
 - c. Article III
 - i. Vvv short
 - d. Article IV
 - i. Senate should make more of the decisions assigned to the Senate President
 - ii. Pro temp?
 - iii. Floor Leader is a redundant position
 - 1. Maybe a secretary or a senate clerk
 - 2. Should not only be 2 people
 - 3. Committees instead of people are seen in other universities
 - iv. Committee Chairs
 - 1. Finance chair
 - 2. Senate leadership meet with chairs
 - v. Senate should be allowed to make changes to budgets

- vi. Composition of the Senate
- vii. Process of law and medical school senator election (grad student representation/apportionment)
 - 1. Grad seats would be added per college
- viii. Flexibility on standing committees
- ix. Vacancies is dictated by a special election or a whole committee is more preferable
- x. Audits are encouraged
 - 1. Tests for certain officials must be careful in avoiding discriminatory principles
- xi. Restructure senate leadership and committee chairs should be included
- xii. Half the seats start in fall and half start in spring
- xiii. 40 percent of students to sign a petition to override an administrative decision
- e. Topics from Alex
 - i. More continuity for judicial
 - 1. Longer terms
 - ii. Rethinking exec admin
 - iii. Senate more say in budget
- f. Article V
 - i. Change term bc timing should be better defined
- f. Other New Business
 - i. Going over Executive Branch
- 8. Convention Forum
 - a. N/A
- 9. Public Comments Period
 - a. N/A
- 10. Announcements
 - a. Chair Levine
 - i. N/A
 - b. Vice Chair Sutton
 - i. N/A
 - c. Secretary Rodriguez
 - i. N/A
- 11. Adjournment
 - a. This meeting was adjourned at 2:55pm.